



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR HEALTH AND FOOD SAFETY

Public Health, country knowledge, crisis management
Health programme and chronic diseases

Steering Group on Health Promotion, Disease Prevention and Management of Non-Communicable Diseases

11 September 2019

Flash report

The Steering Group on Health Promotion, Disease Prevention and Management of Non-Communicable Diseases today facilitated its first webinar, jointly organised by DG SANTE and the Structural Reform Support Service, and it was also attended by the Joint Research Centre.

The webinar aimed to inform Member States on this year's **call for applications of the Structural Reform Support Programme**, and to share Member States' **experiences with that programme** to the benefit of achieving health objectives and health system reforms.

This webinar was an example of the SGPP's usefulness and value in crossing policy silos and in helping Member States' health ministries **maximise health outcomes via any and all EU policies and support mechanisms**.

Information was presented on some of the most successful projects on health funded so far under the Structural Reform Support Programme. Representatives from the Structural Reform Support Service, the Slovenian Ministry of Health, the Czech Republic Ministry of Health and the European Health Telematics Association shared insights from previous and ongoing efforts focusing on reforms in primary health care, in **Hungary** and **Austria**, broader health sector reform in **Slovenia**, and eHealth in the **Czech Republic**.

These experiences showed that the **technical and financial support** offered through the Programme has made a **real impact on the ground** in all four countries, creating momentum and giving a crucial push to make considerable progress on priority health policy reforms. From the perspective of the Member States, the support was described as **substantial, focused** and **user-friendly**, carrying a **low administrative burden** (which was very much appreciated).

From 2015 to 2019, the Structural Reform Support Service supported healthcare reform projects in twenty Member States. They are keen to offer services to the remaining Member States should these so wish and be selected. **Applications addressing challenges in the area of health promotion, prevention and public health are also eligible**. The application **deadline** is **31 October**. The application process is channelled via national contact points as to ensure proposals address national priorities [https://ec.europa.eu/info/departments/structural-reform-support-service_en]

DG SANTE concluded the Structural Reform Support Programme is opening new avenues for health ministries to tackle reform challenges. The examples shared during the webinar illustrated how this has already generated concrete, targeted and policy-relevant progress and innovation. All participants were thanked for their contribution and their willingness to share lessons learned. A **video** of the webinar **will be available** on the Steering Group's page on the Health Policy Platform (for the members and observers of the Steering Group).